Howrey Docket No. 02578.0006.CPUS01

Art Unit: 2877

Examiner: Hoa O. Pham

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Scott A. Chalmers, et al.

Appl. No.: 09/899,383

Filed: July 3, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

HIGH-SPEED THICKNESS MAPPING

OF PATTERNED THIN FILMS

Petition For Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Via Facsimile: (703) 308-7722

Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for responding to the Office Action of Application mailed April 10, 2003, be extended one month from July 10, 2003 to August 10, 2003 by the filing of this Petition and authorization of fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)) is believed to be \$55.00 for a one-month extension for a small entity, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge this fee to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038 (referencing Docket No. 02578.0006.CPUS01). However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Howrey Docket No. 02578.0006.CPUS01

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment relating to this Response to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038, referencing Docket No. 02578.0006.CPUS01.

Respectfully submitted,

HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE LLP

Date: July 21, 2003

Robert C. Laurenson Reg. No. 34,206

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